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RICK W. ALLEN

12TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

June 7, 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Trump  
President of the United States  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Last year, you rightly called on Qatar to end their unfair subsidies that hurt American companies, and were successful in negotiating a new, fairer Open Skies Agreement. I appreciate and applaud your efforts.

However it seems as though Qatar may be sidestepping this agreement with their large investment in Meridiana, recently rebranded to "Air Italy." The State of Qatar made a 100 million Euro direct cash investment into the regional airline, and after rebranding, transferred a number of widebody airplanes to Air Italy and launched service to five cities in the United States.

I believe that these acts are nothing less than Qatar using a proxy airline to circumvent the deal they signed with the United States to end their illegal subsidies. Their actions could have harmful effects to competition, and ultimately to American jobs.

I want to express my thanks for your work highlighting and rectifying trade disparities and fulfilling your promise of America First. Ensuring that Qatar adheres to the agreement made under your Administration is critical to the continued prioritization of American jobs. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Rick W. Allen  
Member of Congress

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